

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are currently pending. Claims 21-37 have been cancelled.

The Examiner has identified in the application the following patentably distinct inventions:

- I. Claims 1-20, drawn to an electronic lock clutch assembly, classified in class 70, subclass 277; and
- II. Claims 21-37, drawn to a method a shield device for preventing access to a fastener of a lock assembly, classified in class 70, subclass 416.

The Examiner has required election of one of the inventions for prosecution. In response to the restriction requirement, Applicants elect to prosecute Group I (claims 1-20) and cancel the claims of Group II (claims 21-37). Applicants reserve the right to file divisional applications directed to the non-elected claims at a later date.

CONCLUSION

Applicants elect to prosecute the invention of Group I including claims 1-20.

Respectfully submitted,



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